

## Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

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FOR FUNSETH FROM S/PRS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: TRAVELING PRESS REPORTAGE, EVENING OF DECEMBER 9

NO. 12

WIRES

1. AP, SCHWEID

GROWING SOVIET MILITARY POWER IS THE GREATER LONG TERM  
THREAT FACING THE WEST, U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A.  
KISSINGER TOLD NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO)  
FOREIGN MINISTERS THURSDAY IN HIS FAREWELL MESSAGE, SOURCES  
SAID.

KISSINGER ALSO BROUGHT ASSURANCES FROM PRESENTHEN MILITARY  
JIMMY CARTER THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL STENGTHEN MILITARY  
AND DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH THE ALLIANCE-

THE SECRETARY'S 45-MINUTE SPEECH CAME IN A CLOSED-DOOR  
SESSION, BUT OFFICIALS WHO ATTENDED PASSED ITS SUBSTANCE  
TO REPORTERS.

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ACCORDING TO THOSE OFFICIALS, KISSINGER STRESSED THE

IMPORTANCE OF DETENTE, BUT SAID ACCOMODATIONS WITH MOSCOW,

NO MATTER HOW SUCCESSFUL, ARE NO SUBSTITUTE FOR MILITARY SECURITY.

HE URGED NATO TO REJECT A WARSAW PACT PROPOSAL THAT THE TWO BLOCS AGREE BY TREATY NOT TO BE THE FIRST TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS. KISSINGER SAID THE PROPOSAL IS AN UNACCEPTABLE RESTRAINT ON WESTERN OPTIONS IN THE EVENT OF ATTACK, ACCORDING TO U.S. DELEGATION SOURCES.

ON A RELATED SUBJECT, HE URGED NATO TO REJECT A WARSAW PACT PROPOSAL THAT THE ALLIANCE FREEZE THEIR MEMBERSHIP. KEEPING NATO OPEN WOULD PERMIT SPAIN TO JOIN EVENTUALLY.

KISSINGER ALSO ADVISED THE EUROPEANS AGAINST SUPPORTING "WHITE REGIMES" IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND SAID PROSPECTS FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST HAVE IMPROVED WITH THE DECLINE IN INFLUENCE OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION.

CARTER'S MESSAGE SAID, "NATO'S MISSION AND THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE ARE NO LESS IMPORTANT TODAY THAN WHEN NATO WAS ORIGINALLY ESTABLISHED."

HE CALLED NATO "THE ESSENTIAL INSTRUMENT FOR ENHANCING OUR COLLECTIVE SECURITY," AND PROMISED HIS ADMINISTRATION WOULD SUSTAIN AND STRENGTHEN THE U.S. COMMITMENT TO THE ALLIANCE.

"OVER THE PAST MONTHS," THE MESSAGE SAID, "I DISCUSSED A NUMBER OF CHALLENGES THAT FACE NATO -- THAT WE MAINTAIN A COMMON STRATEGY AGAINST COMMON THREATS, THAT WE HAVE EFFICIENT AND STRONG MILITARY FORCES AND THAT WE CONSULT CLOSELY AS WE NEGOTIATE WITH OTHERS ON BOTH EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL ISSUES. I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THESE CHALLENGES CAN BE MET."

FOREIGN MINISTER JOSE DE MEDEIROS FERREIRA OF PORTUGAL PRAISED KISSINGER. "IT IS WITH REGRET THAT WE WATCH AS

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THIS EMINENT WORLD DIPLOMAT FIGURE LEAVES THE SCENE," HE TOLD THE CONFERENCE.

2. UPI'S ANDERSON

HENRY A KISSINGER ON HIS FAREWELL MISSION AS SECRETARY OF STATE, THURSDAY BROUGHT AMERICA'S NATO ALLIES ASSURANCES OF A "STRENGTHENED" COMMITMENT TO THE ALLIANCE FROM

PRESIDENT-ELECT JIMMY CARTER.

KISSINGER SAID HE WAS "LEAVING THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES IN EXCELLENT HANDS" AND WAS NEAR TEARS AS HIS FELLOW FOREIGN MINISTERS LAUDED HIM WITH PRAISE AS "AN EMINENT WORLD DIPLOMATIC FIGURE."

KISSINGER SPOKE FROM NOTES FOR NEARLY AN HOUR EXCEPT WHEN HE READ THE THREE-PARAGRAPH MESSAGE FROM CARTER.

IN HIS MESSAGE CARTER PLEDGED THAT "THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO MAINTAINING THE NATO ALLIANCE SHALL BE SUSTAINED AND STRENGTHENED UNDER MY ADMINISTRATION."

"OUR NATO ALLIANCE LIES AT THE HEART OF THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN NORTH AMERICA AND WESTERN EUROPE," CARTER'S MESSAGE SAID. "NATO IS THE ESSENTIAL INSTRUMENT FOR ENHANCING OUR COLLECTIVE SECURITY"

KISSINGER HEARD THE ACCOLADES OF HIS PEERS AND DELEGATES TO THE MEETING SAID HE APPEARED DEEPLY MOVED WHEN COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOSE MEDEIRO FERREIRRA OF PORTUGAL SAID, "IT IS WITH GREAT REGRET THAT WE WATCH THIS EMINENT FIGURE OF

WORLD DIPLOMACY LEAVE THE SCENE."

BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY ANTHONY CROSLAND AT ONE POINT TURNED TO KISSINGER SITTING AT HIS SIDE AND SAID HE DID NOT INTEND TO PRAISE HIM AT THIS MEETING. HE SAID HE WAS TAKING KISSINGER BACK TO LONDON WITH HIM AFTER THE MEETING AND WOULD TAKE OVER THE PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM AT WOLVERHAMPTON-CHELSEA SOCCER MATCH ON SATURDAY TO DELIVER A HEARTFELT TRIBUTE.

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HOWEVER, CROSLAND PRAISED KISSINGER FOR HIS "COURAGEOUS AND AUDACIOUS" INFLUENCE IN SEEKING A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT TO THE RHODESIA CRISIS. "WITHOUT KISSINGER'S INTERVENTION," CROSLAND SAID, "THERE WOULD BE NO RHODESIA CONFERENCE IN GENEVA."

KISSINGER APPEARED TO BE CLOSE TO TEARS AS HE CLOSED HIS REMARKS BY EXPRESSING HOW MUCH IT HAS MEANT TO HIM TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH MEETINGS WITH COLLEAGUES THAT HE VALUED SO MUCH.

KISSINGER ALSO PRAISED HIS SUCCESSOR, CYRUS VANCE, AS "A JUST, FAIR AND ABLE MAN" AND URGED HIS NATO COLLEAGUES TO GIVE HIM FULL COOPERATION.

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KISSINGER WARNED THAT THE GROWING SOVIET MILITARY STRENGTH  
POSED POSSIBLE TEMPTATIONS FOR MOSCOW TO LAUNCH ADVENTURES  
SUCH AS THE SOVIET INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA.

KISSINGER URGED HIS NATO COLLEAGUES TO REJECT TWO PRO-  
POSALS MADE BY SOVIET LEADER LEONID I. BREZHNEV TWO WEEKS  
AGO CALLING FOR A MUTUAL FREEZE ON THE MEMBERSHIPS OF NATO  
AND THE WARSAW PACT AND A TREATY BANNING EITHER SIDE  
FROM USING NUCLEAR WEAPONS FIRST.

## 2. RADIO

--- BERNARD KALB, CBS RADIO, THE WORLD TONIGHT

EDWARDS: THIS HAS BEEN A KIND OF EMOTIONAL DAY AT THE  
MEETING OF THE NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS IN BRUSSELS. HENRY  
KISSINGER MADE HIS LAST SPEECH THERE AS THE AMERICAN  
SECRETARY OF STATE, AND THERE WERE EXPRESSIONS OF REGRET  
AND SADNESS ALL AROUND. BERNARD KALB HAS A REPORT.

KALB: HERE AT NATO, A FULL DAY OF DIPLOMATIC TALK, BUT  
ALSO A DAY THAT FEATURED A PERSONAL STORY: - KISSINGER'S  
FAREWELL TO THE FIFTEEN NATION ALLIANCE. THE HIGH POINT  
OF THE DIPLOMACY WAS A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER,  
HIS FIRST SUCH COMMUNICATION TO AN INTERNATIONAL GATHERING.  
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IT WAS READ BY KISSINGER TO THE NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS  
COUNCIL, MR. CARTER DECLARING THAT THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT  
TO MAINTAINING THE NATO ALLIANCE SHALL BE SUSTAINED AND  
STRENGTHENED UNDER HIS ADMINISTRATION.

IN HIS OWN REVIEW OF THE WORLD SITUATION, KISSINGER WARNED  
AGAINST BECOMING PARALYZED BY SOVIET STRENGTH, ADDING  
IT WAS POSSIBLE TO MAINTAIN THE MILITARY BALANCE. AND AT  
THE END OF HIS SPEECH, A PERSONAL NOTE AS HE PREPARED TO  
STEP DOWN AS SECRETARY OF STATE, ABOUT THE VALUE HE ATTACH-  
ED TO HIS RELATIONS WITH HIS FELLOW MINISTERS. SOME WHO  
HEARD KISSINGER'S SPEECH SAID THE SECRETARY AT THE CLOSE  
SEEMED OVERCOME BY EMOTION, AS THOUGH HE WERE FIGHTING  
BACK TEARS.

## 3. TELEVISION

CRONKITE, CBS: SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER BADE FAREWELL  
TODAY TO HIS NATO COLLEAGUES IN A SPEECH BEHIND CLOSED

DOORS IN BRUSSELS. HE REPORTEDLY TOLD THE NATO FOREIGN  
MINISTERS THAT THE SOVIET UNION'S GROWING MILITARY POWER IS  
THE GREATEST LONG-TERM THREAT FACING THE WEST. KISSINGER

ALSO DELIVERED A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER ASSURING NATO OF A STRENGTHENED U.S.COMMITMENT TO THE ALLIANCE.

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DAVID BRINKLEY, NBC

OUR NBC NEWS POLL TWO WEEKS AGO SHOWED HENRY KISSINGER SHOWED VERY HIGH WITH THE AMERICAN PUBLIC - 62 APPROVED OF HIS WORK AS SECRETARY OF STATE. TODAY, HE MADE A SORT OF FAREWELL APPEARANCE AT THE NATO MEETING OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS IN BRUSSELS - WHERE NO PICTURES WERE ALLOWED. HE BROUGHT A MESSAGE FROM JIMMY CARTER SAYING THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO NATO WILL REMAIN STRONG; HE POINTED OUT THAT THE ONLY HELP THE RUSSIANS CAN GIVE TO POOR, HUNGRY COUNTRIES IS TO SEND THEM ARMS. THE NATO COUNCIL PRESIDENT SAID OF KISSINGER, QUOTE, "WE REGRET SEEING THIS EMINENT FIGURE OF WORLD DIPLOMACY LEAVE THE SCENE."

BARBARA WALTERS, ABC-TV EVENING NEWS.

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IN BRUSSELS TODAY, SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER MADE HIS FAREWELL ADDRESS TO THE NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS. HE SAID THAT GROWING SOVIET MILITARY POWER IS THE GREATEST LONG-TERM THREAT TO THE WEST. HE URGED THAT NATO REJECT A WARSAW PACT PROPOSAL THAT THE EAST AND WEST AGREE BY TREATY NOT TO BE THE FIRST TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THAT, SAID KISSINGER, WOULD BE AN UNACCEPTABLE RESTRAINT ON WESTERN

OPTIONS IN THE EVENT OF ATTACK. AND KISSINGER DELIVERED PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER'S ASSURANCE THAT HIS ADMINISTRATION WILL STRENGTHEN TIES WITH NATO. ROBINSON

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